

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Office Action dated May 18, 2006. The Office Action rejected all claims pending at the time. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1, 5, 9-10, 22 and 65 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,699,361 issued to Ding et al. ("Ding"). Claims 2-4, 6-8, 11-21, 23-40, 43-64 and 66-103 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Ding in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,946,399 issued to Kitaj ("Kitaj"). Lastly, the Office Action rejected claims 41 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Ding in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,983,019 issued to Davidson ("Davidson"). In light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of all pending claims, including newly added claims 105 and 106.

Applicants have added claims 104 and 105. Applicants assert that newly added claims 104 and 105 are not taught in the sections of the references cited in the Final Office Action dated May 18, 2006.

Applicants have cancelled claims 65-68 without prejudice. The remaining independent claims have been substantially amended. Applicants assert the sections of the references cited in the May 18, 2006, Office Action do not teach or fairly suggest the limitations of the independent claims as amended.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5093.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450, on August 17, 2006.

 8/17/06
Attorney for Applicant(s) Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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